

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 10:46 PM

**Subject:** Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony  
**Attachments:** 20150407224603\_Testimony of Katherine Cho pdf.pdf

## ~~Speaker Registration~~/Testimony

All fields marked "\*" are required and must be completed in order for this form to be valid.

Note: Registrations are not accepted prior to the agendas being posted.

Name(*)	Katherine Cho
Phone (*)	389 9378
Email (*)	kebrack@mac.com
Meeting Date (*)	2015-04-08
Council/PH Committee (*)	Budget
Agenda Item (*)	Grants in Aid Amendment Bill 13
Your position on the matter (*)	Support
Representing (*)	Organization
Organization	Surfrider Spirit Sessions
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (*)	No
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	20150407224603_Testimony of Katherine Cho pdf.pdf
Accept Terms and Conditions (*)	1

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2015 APR -8 AM 7:33

Testimony of Katherine Cho, Member of Board of Directors, Treasurer, Surfrider Spirit Sessions

Katherine Cho

Phone: 389 9378

Email kcbrack@mac.com

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Dear Members of the City Council:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of the proposed amendment to the Grants In Aid Bill 13 page 29 of 35 which provide much needed Grant in Aid funding to Surfrider Spirit Sessions (SSS), a 501c(3) non-profit that works with at-risk youth and adjudicated teens.

I've had the honor of serving on the Board of Directors of SSS since 2011 after our family foundation, The Brack Foundation, donated surfboards and stand-up surfboards to the organization. The rationale for our donation was as follows:

- A grass-roots organization providing effective 1-on-1 mentorship to the at-risk youth of Hawaii
- Participating youths are appointed to the program by Family Court Judges and monitored by Parole Officers
- Success measurements (connection with positive role models, learning positive life choices, improvements in self-esteem, self-confidence, and identity) very high and recidivism very low
- Program includes learning decision making skills, jobs training, and community awareness

As a Board Member, I've observed first hand the success stories with participants. With such a high impact rate, I believe that the SSS program expenditures are essentially long term investments into our community's future.

I am thankful that SSS exists to help Hawaii's youth who are desperate for positive guidance and feel proud to serve with this organization.

Thank you for considering the grant to SSS.

Sincerely,



Katherine Cho  
Board Member  
Surfrider Spirit Sessions